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# MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

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Cover: Red-tailed Hawk. Drawing by Jon E. Boone

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## STATE-WIDE BIRD COUNT, MAY 7, 1983.

James Stasz

The 35th annual "Bird Day" was blessed by the best weather in a number of years. Morning lows ranged from 40°F in the western part of the State to 50°F on the Lower Eastern Shore; by late afternoon the entire state reached the low 80's. One observer found a few clouds, no one reported precipitation, and a couple complained about the warmth. Afternoon southwest winds caused problems for those observers who traditionally put in a full day. For the 5th time every county in Maryland had some coverage, and for the first time the District of Columbia is included in the report. The 373 observers in 184 parties traveled a total of 1282 hours (including 942 on foot, 322 by car, 14 by boat) covering a cumulative 4624 miles (662 foot, 3921 car, 27 boat); 233 species (plus 2 hybrids) were found among the 142,385 individual birds.

This year I am breaking from the tradition of including a chart ranking the counties from highest to lowest. Not only is the same information obtained by checking the summary table, but also it is a source of embarrassment for the counties on the tail end of the list. Of note, however, is the total for the highest county list: Baltimore with 158 is far below the record of 200 it had a few years ago. In part this can be explained by the lateness of the Count; most of the waterfowl had departed from Chesapeake Bay. For the past few counts I tabulated the "equitability" of species, but this year, due to the great unevenness in coverage, I will dispense with that chart also. Only 19 species were found in all 23 counties, with an additional 16 species in 22 counties; this is far below an expected 50 species common to all counties. Twenty-seven species were reported from only one county, and 18 from only 2 counties.

Three species were added to the May Count list, at least one of which is a species which has bred in Maryland. Mary Humphreys found a male *Anhinga* at the trailer park ponds near Berlin. Although this species appeared on a past May Count list, no verifying details were supplied for this rare vagrant. The 1983 bird was found again the next day and photographed; details of this sighting will appear in a future issue. Jeff Effinger did not have a camera, but sent a nice sketch of a *Chukar* that was spotted in Talbot County. Although probably a released bird (like Baltimore's Ringed Turtle-Doves), it is a species that might become established; future May Counts will chart its rise. At the other end of the state, in Garrett County, Fran Pope found a *Northern Saw-whet Owl*; a thirty-minute tape recording was an unusual form of documentation.

Other usual birds that made the list because of substantiating details from the observers include: Rough-legged Hawk (Marvin Hewitt, Caroline Co., the latest ever in Maryland), Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (Robert Paterson, Flo Giffen, Mary Twigg, Allegany Co.), Willow Flycatcher (Wayne Sieck, Montgomery Co.), Brewster's Warbler (photographed by Richard & Barbara Johnson, Allegany Co.), Lawrence's Warbler (David & Seth Brandes, with a nice line drawing by a third unidentified observer), and 2 Lincoln's Sparrows (1 banded at Adventure, Montgomery Co., and 1 seen by Paul Nistico in Charles Co. (excellent details).

Not unexpected were reports of species that are rare or difficult to identify...and no details. I have omitted several Philadelphia Vireos, Connecticut Warblers, and



Pr.G	AnAr	Calv	Char	St.M	Kent	QuAn	Caro	Talb	Dore	Wico	Somr	Worc	TOTAL	Cos.
1	33	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	8	—	—	—	84	8
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
10	10	1	2	22	80	10	50	15	119	—	171	—	502	12
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	3
40	18	10	550	11	52	2	19	60	29	3	21	1	893	22
—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	4	18	—	1	3	29	7
—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	10	22	—	15	2	53	6
—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	2
—	2	—	—	8	—	—	8	155	3	57	10	6	259	12
8	16	5	8	10	4	—	6	24	5	1	16	—	177	20
—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	63	5
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	2
1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	38	3	50	6
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	5	—	—	—	—	14	5
—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
123	2	—	8	—	474	14	—	26	30	13	15	6	1250	20
20	3	3	21	1	2	1	11	9	4	—	—	—	372	19
—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1
2	10	—	1	—	7	3	3	1	36	—	—	—	77	13
35	51	6	33	12	465	5	24	86	32	25	72	8	1499	23
—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	9	3
10	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	11	—	2	—	36	9
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	—	7	2
1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	5
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
3	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	4
10	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	40	7
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	9	3
—	3	1	14	2	13	1	7	42	10	—	—	—	184	17
25	53	5	33	12	226	8	329	207	80	73	71	11	1747	23
10	22	1	27	23	52	5	5	69	24	—	7	—	281	20
1,2	2,0	2,1	3,1	2,0	4,2	—	—	3,2	9,5	—	—	1,0	44	9
2	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	8	—	2	—	20	10
1	1	1	1	—	3	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	29	15
—	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	14	11
10	10	2	8	—	2	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	133	16
—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	79	13
10	3	1	8	8	7	—	21	14	2	7	6	—	165	21
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
2	8	1	—	—	3	—	3	5	—	—	—	—	81	16
—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	110	9
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	3
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	4
17	37	6	32	12	54	8	65	112	48	22	52	1	588	21
—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	11	2
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	6	—	13	2
—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	2	—	5	—	11	3
—	7	—	—	—	13	—	—	1	103	—	6	—	130	5
—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	10	5

Species	Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Carr	D.C.	Mont	Howa	Balt	Hart	Cecil
Common Moorhen	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Coot	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black-bellied Plover	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Semipalmated Plover	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Killdeer	32	17	20	26	1	2	6	10	21	5	5
Am Oystercatcher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greater Yellowlegs	7	2	1	8	—	—	—	—	6	—	19
Lesser Yellowlegs	11	1	—	—	—	—	1	10	8	—	7
Solitary Sandpiper	12	24	2	11	—	1	23	16	18	6	8
Willet	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spotted Sandpiper	29	16	10	21	—	6	27	44	48	3	6
Upland Sandpiper	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ruddy Turnstone	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Sanderling	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Semipalm Sandpiper	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	50	—	—	—
Least Sandpiper	—	13	—	33	—	—	3	1	105	4	18
Pectoral Sandpiper	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—
Dunlin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Short-b. Dowitcher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Snipe	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Woodcock	—	3	3	—	—	—	1	2	3	—	2
Laughing Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	82	—	5
Bonaparte's Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-billed Gull	4	—	—	—	—	20	—	4	646	56	156
Herring Gull	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	60	—	12
Gt. Black-backed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	15	16	1
Caspian Tern	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Royal Tern	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Tern	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Forster's Tern	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Least Tern	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—
Rock Dove	44	107	128	147	2	80	265	491	307	50	92
Ringed Turtle-Dove	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Mourning Dove	73	127	137	68	8	5	187	273	306	43	63
Black-billed Cuckoo	1	3	4	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	2	10	16	3	—	1	17	3	5	2	11
Common Barn-Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Eastern Screech-Owl	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	8
Great Horned Owl	1	1	1	2	—	—	1	—	1	3	23
Barred Owl	2	1	1	2	—	—	10	10	1	—	17
Northern Saw-whet Owl	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Nighthawk	—	6	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1
Chuck-will's-widow	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whip-poor-will	5	6	12	1	—	—	—	—	9	—	10
Chimney Swift	32	96	147	155	5	4	114	83	98	55	27
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	6	12	10	4	—	—	20	21	13	5	7
Belted Kingfisher	15	7	6	8	—	1	15	12	11	5	7
Red-headed Woodpecker	2	—	3	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
Red-bellied Woodpecker	8	35	64	46	3	4	154	111	82	25	50
Yellow-bell. Sapsucker	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Downy Woodpecker	35	69	68	22	1	5	79	75	59	7	26
Hairy Woodpecker	12	13	16	3	—	—	15	8	10	—	6
Northern Flicker	34	47	94	27	2	5	72	61	61	22	38
Pileated Woodpecker	2	28	29	7	—	2	26	7	3	2	—
Eastern Wood-Pewee	6	18	6	28	1	—	41	26	10	8	12
Yellow-bell. Flycatcher	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acadian Flycatcher	3	13	23	11	—	—	84	49	13	10	9
Willow Flycatcher	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Least Flycatcher	8	1	4	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—
Eastern Phoebe	27	59	49	35	—	1	44	37	44	5	16
Eastern Kingbird	14	16	54	28	2	1	111	68	50	25	23
Great Crested Flycatcher	24	36	52	12	—	7	66	15	11	2	16
Horned Lark	2	—	23	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2
Purple Martin	60	—	57	29	—	—	15	32	84	14	24
Tree Swallow	79	32	41	26	—	—	91	49	19	15	30

Pr.G	AnAr	Calv	Chas	St.M	Kent	QuAn	Caro	Talb	Dorc	Wico	Somr	Worc	TOTAL	Cos.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	4	1
9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	2
—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
—	—	—	—	—	20	3	—	28	46	—	—	—	98	5
6	7	—	5	3	7	—	19	19	6	13	8	5	243	21 +
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	1
27	1	—	1	—	10	2	59	35	27	3	20	1	229	17
36	2	—	1	—	5	—	34	6	3	12	13	—	150	15
5	6	—	14	2	3	—	6	11	—	19	1	3	191	19 +
—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	34	—	51	3	93	6
68	22	12	19	4	8	1	7	8	2	8	—	—	369	20 +
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	7	3
—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	3
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	9	1
70	—	—	8	—	9	—	27	33	3	—	12	—	216	10
—	1	—	—	—	164	4	13	96	350	135	26	—	966	15
—	—	—	6	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	3	—	20	5
—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	5	500	—	132	—	639	4
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	4	2
1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
1	8	—	2	—	3	—	5	9	6	—	—	—	48	13
—	2239	15	16	170	73	29	1009	2357	450	86	186	45	6762	14
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	1
6	1516	13	185	23	318	4	15	48	45	2	6	—	3067	18
—	438	—	1	24	262	12	—	8	325	1	6	—	1155	14
—	23	—	1	—	35	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	100	8 +
—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	9	4
—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	145	—	—	—	147	2
—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	4	2
—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	27	—	—	—	34	3
9	195	—	6	—	58	—	211	42	5	12	—	4	2255	19 +
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
69	146	20	118	48	171	13	118	111	38	29	22	2	2195	23 +
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	14	7
3	1	—	7	1	11	1	12	8	13	11	5	—	143	20 +
—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	8	5
1	2	—	2	—	6	—	2	16	2	—	—	—	45	12
3	1	—	1	—	14	2	2	14	7	—	3	—	80	17
10	—	—	7	—	6	1	7	5	2	—	—	—	82	15
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
2	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	18	10
1	8	—	—	1	9	—	2	36	8	—	—	—	67	8
2	2	—	10	—	5	—	12	4	5	1	—	—	84	14
46	78	14	33	23	146	—	63	181	22	70	10	6	1506	22 +
7	17	1	10	7	19	1	10	21	3	6	3	—	203	21
4	10	2	8	1	1	—	9	4	1	2	1	—	130	20 +
1	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	—	21	11
22	82	7	49	12	33	3	43	60	13	12	1	—	919	22 +
—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	6	5
11	41	—	31	2	17	6	12	36	8	11	9	1	631	22 +
1	3	—	3	—	2	1	4	9	1	—	1	—	108	17
8	55	2	12	2	33	1	18	55	12	13	15	—	689	22 +
3	7	2	4	—	—	1	9	2	3	4	1	—	142	18 +
7	14	2	30	—	17	—	31	25	5	6	11	—	304	20
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
7	4	4	20	1	6	3	22	5	1	5	—	—	293	20
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	7
15	6	3	17	2	6	2	29	9	—	3	—	—	409	19 +
21	38	3	27	11	43	20	42	45	33	6	22	—	703	22 +
4	18	1	7	4	27	1	46	84	19	16	16	—	484	21 +
—	—	—	—	—	5	1	137	50	4	—	—	—	228	11
56	24	47	37	9	193	2	214	148	85	13	52	3	1198	21
58	10	—	—	1	150	2	40	11	90	6	41	—	791	19

Species	Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Carr	D.C.	Mont	Hawa	Balt	Harl	Cecil
N. Rough-wing Swallow	5	34	37	36	—	9	41	25	47	8	17
Bank Swallow	2	35	8	22	—	—	2	2	10	—	7
Cliff Swallow	16	2	12	—	—	—	—	16	45	—	—
Barn Swallow	166	52	102	101	4	19	205	219	298	101	104
Blue Jay	197	254	350	139	40	50	1075	894	593	386	275
American Crow	183	232	233	239	—	24	447	316	307	75	64
Fish Crow	—	2	20	50	—	4	39	12	203	15	35
Common Raven	2	1	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black-cap. Chickadee	176	44	60	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Carolina Chickadee	—	—	21	52	1	22	298	181	155	36	70
Tufted Titmouse	49	117	142	65	1	10	273	176	131	25	57
Red-breasted Nuthatch	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
White-breast Nuthatch	44	29	17	4	—	1	42	12	13	3	1
Brown-headed Nuthatch	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brown Creeper	4	1	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Carolina Wren	—	13	44	28	—	3	81	51	34	4	25
House Wren	54	27	87	80	4	9	254	113	90	18	19
Marsh Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	1	3
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	21	2	17	3	—	—	10	3	5	3	2
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	60	81	117	40	1	—	281	164	112	25	41
Eastern Bluebird	21	30	185	28	4	—	36	93	37	18	4
Veery	6	7	3	1	—	2	21	50	31	2	9
Gray-cheeked Thrush	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Swainson's Thrush	5	—	24	6	1	6	48	15	12	3	3
Hermit Thrush	12	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	2	—
Wood Thrush	37	35	65	44	1	4	90	172	86	27	74
American Robin	286	357	182	227	16	10	212	542	549	132	298
Gray Catbird	127	94	113	96	18	8	328	399	187	41	57
Northern Mockingbird	—	41	46	61	1	3	118	179	105	37	51
Brown Thrasher	18	44	71	13	4	1	18	44	16	5	26
Water Pipit	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Cedar Waxwing	—	7	117	12	5	47	118	35	106	20	17
Loggerhead Shrike	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
European Starling	195	276	224	410	50	62	1016	925	930	215	190
White-eyed Vireo	2	8	20	6	1	3	79	159	82	33	54
Solitary Vireo	8	1	1	—	—	—	5	1	5	—	2
Yellow-throated Vireo	1	12	6	3	—	1	25	26	10	2	7
Warbling Vireo	—	5	59	4	1	—	31	—	6	10	6
Philadelphia Vireo	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-eyed Vireo	20	100	96	40	—	13	227	182	107	44	108
Blue-winged Warbler	1	—	3	2	—	1	10	16	15	2	9
Golden-winged Warbler	25	16	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brewster's hybrid	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lawrence's hybrid	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tennessee Warbler	1	1	3	1	—	4	14	8	3	1	—
Nashville Warbler	9	—	12	—	—	—	4	3	5	1	—
Northern Parula	17	13	24	8	—	3	126	82	33	15	27
Yellow Warbler	86	73	32	20	1	2	53	76	69	28	36
Chestnut-sided Warbler	70	4	7	—	—	1	10	7	4	1	3
Magnolia Warbler	16	10	3	—	—	1	7	5	4	3	—
Cape May Warbler	14	2	3	—	—	—	22	9	3	1	1
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	28	—	1	5	1	2	13	12	12	1	1
Yellow-rumped Warbler	77	42	51	25	7	66	394	258	107	49	80
Blk-thr. Green Warbler	83	3	7	—	—	4	11	6	13	—	6
Blackburnian Warbler	10	3	6	1	—	—	2	3	1	1	—
Yellow-throated Warbler	—	3	12	1	—	—	11	1	—	2	—
Pine Warbler	—	27	4	1	—	—	1	1	4	—	2
Prairie Warbler	4	27	30	—	—	—	65	44	33	17	29
Palm Warbler	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Bay-breasted Warbler	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Blackpoll Warbler	—	—	—	2	—	9	27	17	3	1	11
Cerulean Warbler	1	19	31	5	—	—	14	5	3	11	8
Black-&-white Warbler	10	4	3	—	1	3	18	24	36	8	13
American Redstart	52	12	42	10	1	2	72	82	34	7	17
Prothonotary Warbler	—	—	7	6	—	—	37	—	—	1	2



Pr.G	AnAr	Calv	Chas	St.M.	Kent	QuAn	Caro	Talb	Dorc	Wico	Somr	Worc	TOTAL	Cos.
19	37	—	42	—	13	2	13	13	2	2	—	—	402	18 +
2	26	—	—	3	53	—	10	—	4	—	—	—	186	14
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	91	5
90	415	22	279	85	107	29	238	461	335	70	54	21	3577	23 +
191	1604	171	102	31	60	15	134	137	14	44	19	2	6777	23 +
83	395	11	157	52	80	8	167	235	35	57	52	3	3459	23 +
21	34	—	15	1	28	10	24	153	25	54	21	—	766	19 +
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	4
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	283	5
30	187	8	92	38	61	14	104	146	23	44	39	2	1624	21 +
26	122	4	120	25	45	1	107	151	18	37	4	1	1707	23 +
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	2
—	2	—	7	—	—	—	2	1	—	2	—	—	180	14 +
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	1	3	—	11	4
—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	20	9
11	56	3	33	15	15	10	27	76	17	28	43	2	619	21 +
9	47	1	1	—	43	3	25	16	15	9	34	—	958	21 +
1	7	—	3	2	6	1	2	4	40	—	56	—	146	13
—	1	—	—	1	3	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	74	14
17	29	8	71	6	81	1	11	85	1	23	4	—	1259	21
48	7	2	56	26	7	2	43	14	7	1	33	2	604	23
7	10	—	7	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	160	16 +
—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	4 +
3	12	1	6	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	147	14 +
—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	23	7
26	75	4	50	9	94	2	80	204	17	26	8	—	1230	22 +
41	330	38	147	43	900	11	263	532	110	190	76	6	5498	23 +
51	129	6	34	6	56	13	28	29	13	24	41	1	1899	23 +
31	132	11	67	43	44	6	90	84	14	30	40	8	1242	22 +
6	31	—	22	7	24	1	37	22	5	9	15	1	440	22 +
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	2
10	9	—	30	1	27	—	30	19	59	19	23	—	711	19 +
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
161	761	53	343	111	393	24	1014	221	200	900	120	26	5820	23 +
39	63	5	71	15	52	5	38	46	15	50	35	—	881	22 +
1	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	37	11
8	1	1	8	—	6	1	4	—	—	2	—	—	124	17 +
1	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	128	12
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
46	118	21	177	11	82	6	72	120	27	31	9	—	1657	21 +
—	1	—	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	67	11 +
—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	4
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	11 +
—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	39	10
23	30	2	66	5	19	2	14	46	5	5	—	—	565	20 +
17	21	3	19	—	127	8	5	6	31	1	34	2	745	23 +
2	—	—	2	—	6	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	119	12
8	3	—	—	—	6	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	69	11 +
—	4	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	61	11
1	6	—	1	—	4	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	91	15 +
43	204	1	101	60	115	12	46	165	40	22	3	—	1968	22 +
2	2	—	3	—	7	—	1	4	1	—	—	—	153	14 +
—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	34	10
3	—	1	1	—	6	1	—	8	4	11	—	—	65	14
3	4	—	17	5	10	2	14	66	62	32	30	—	285	18
14	36	1	46	13	9	—	10	6	1	33	21	—	439	19
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	5	2
—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
9	9	—	11	16	9	1	3	5	—	2	2	—	137	16 +
1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	102	13
2	21	—	32	2	17	3	7	13	9	22	1	—	249	20 +
18	12	—	12	9	18	—	3	7	2	1	—	—	413	19 +
1	—	—	8	2	8	2	35	9	7	15	—	—	140	14 +

Species	Garr	Alle	Wash	Fred	Carr	D.C.	Mont	Iowa	Balt	Harf	Ceel
Worm-eating Warbler	—	23	13	2	—	—	4	8	7	—	3
Ovenbird	66	12	9	23	1	3	31	93	47	1	30
Northern Waterthrush	—	5	9	4	—	—	19	4	10	1	3
Louisiana Waterthrush	3	30	45	9	—	—	28	18	8	3	6
Kentucky Warbler	—	1	6	2	—	—	7	35	16	4	14
Common Yellowthroat	135	59	22	36	6	1	154	194	164	47	82
Hooded Warbler	5	4	4	—	—	—	3	26	13	—	2
Wilson's Warbler	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—
Canada Warbler	10	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	—	1
Yellow-breasted Chat	—	23	25	4	—	—	39	46	10	6	17
Summer Tanager	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Tanager	27	38	26	28	—	9	60	68	35	18	23
Northern Cardinal	88	205	233	153	15	12	578	438	274	66	131
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	38	23	45	13	5	2	61	36	25	3	10
Blue Grosbeak	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	7
Indigo Bunting	24	85	74	30	—	5	166	91	55	23	32
Rufous-sided Towhee	182	118	66	55	6	3	157	216	136	19	46
Chipping Sparrow	266	166	92	45	—	2	29	67	60	21	49
Field Sparrow	63	49	63	26	9	—	103	55	44	13	42
Vesper Sparrow	2	—	18	2	—	—	—	3	4	—	—
Savannah Sparrow	13	2	—	4	—	—	—	2	20	1	1
Grasshopper Sparrow	1	5	40	9	3	—	7	26	1	1	2
Henslow's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sharp-tailed Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Seaside Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Song Sparrow	241	85	109	155	2	8	195	189	189	26	54
Lincoln's Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Swamp Sparrow	27	7	2	2	—	—	12	6	25	1	7
White-throated Sparrow	41	102	78	48	8	6	173	122	66	33	28
White-crowned Sparrow	4	11	6	11	—	—	2	1	1	1	—
Dark-eyed Junco	8	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Bobolink	52	—	5	46	—	—	24	618	347	87	57
Eastern Meadowlark	55	43	48	67	—	—	16	56	22	7	17
Red-winged Blackbird	334	246	118	326	10	5	256	492	761	61	207
Rusty Blackbird	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Boat-tailed Grackle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Grackle	309	328	438	419	20	13	522	604	557	196	559
Brown-headed Cowbird	95	98	106	100	10	1	177	232	86	44	72
Orchard Oriole	—	5	17	6	1	—	26	7	4	6	18
Northern Oriole	25	48	108	36	5	4	82	52	69	23	25
Purple Finch	27	50	308	52	—	—	4	31	10	2	1
House Finch	32	86	51	29	—	8	24	51	85	10	23
Pine Siskin	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
American Goldfinch	283	341	543	294	11	40	1725	470	645	112	69
House Sparrow	141	112	226	266	20	75	137	190	502	26	85
Total Species	131	140	150	122	55	76	137	138	158	121	139
Total Individuals	5594	5709	7009	5171	337	782	13214	12316	11761	2832	4809

### Coverage and Weather

Party-hours: foot	75	52	42	40	5	6	108	133	98	13	43
car	35	21	16	12	0	0	10	21	12	13	17
boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
other	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
total	110	74	61	52	5	6	118	154	110	26	60
Party-miles: foot	67	37	38	26	2	4	103	105	60	15	17
car	409	141	193	194	0	0	148	290	172	132	206
boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
other	2	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
total	478	178	240	220	2	4	251	395	232	147	223
Starting Time	0500	0500	0500	0530	0730	0630	0600	0330	0530	0430	0115
Ending Time	2200	1930	2000	2100	1130	1400	1640	2115	2100	1600	2200
Total Observers	22	29	21	13	4	2	48	52	29	20	8
Total Parties	12	16	9	7	1	1	24	22	17	3	6

Pr.G	AnAr	Calv	Chas	St.M	Kent	QuAn	Caro	Talb	Dorc	Wico	Somr	Worc	TOTAL	Cos.
5	—	—	5	—	3	—	3	13	4	18	—	—	111	14
19	41	5	49	4	20	—	62	45	23	48	34	1	667	22 +
—	2	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	62	14
4	2	1	16	—	2	—	5	3	—	2	—	—	185	17
2	3	3	14	—	8	110	19	13	—	3	1	—	152	17
132	178	9	54	17	87	20	46	74	75	47	110	2	1651	23 +
7	22	7	17	—	—	—	1	1	—	5	—	—	117	14
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	4
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	5
13	38	3	33	1	15	5	19	7	14	2	2	—	322	20
1	—	—	5	—	—	—	12	10	8	2	—	—	39	7
16	37	2	36	2	14	—	30	23	4	47	—	—	543	19 +
72	334	50	147	54	271	33	213	200	35	40	78	4	3724	23 +
—	4	—	4	—	—	—	4	5	—	—	—	—	278	14 +
6	16	3	9	12	9	6	23	29	13	7	—	—	148	17 +
2	35	1	74	9	17	2	48	30	5	8	6	—	822	21 +
36	118	5	47	5	53	15	88	78	22	34	41	—	1546	22 +
27	69	5	78	23	48	2	40	23	7	7	13	—	823	22
19	113	1	48	11	71	3	4	3	1	—	—	—	52	13
—	—	—	—	—	4	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	38	7
1	37	2	—	1	1	—	2	9	2	2	—	2	102	17
17	5	—	9	4	7	1	16	4	4	—	—	—	162	19
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	5	1
—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	—	7	2
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	60	—	104	—	166	3
32	109	15	20	8	25	1	14	37	3	19	43	—	1579	22 +
—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
—	3	—	1	—	5	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	104	14
27	83	3	51	24	29	20	81	38	6	14	8	1	1090	23 +
—	1	—	—	—	6	—	4	3	1	—	—	—	52	13
2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	7
110	399	—	—	1	—	—	125	121	45	—	4	—	2041	15
9	7	5	16	26	17	—	11	39	33	2	22	3	521	21 +
292	653	46	363	155	1111	61	430	540	750	300	187	11	7715	23 +
—	—	—	—	10	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	5
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	12	3	21	3
208	438	35	483	214	1333	48	1411	3059	600	1200	190	29	13213	23 +
17	72	28	66	19	112	16	241	337	110	263	84	11	2397	23 +
10	15	4	5	16	22	2	52	75	35	10	11	—	347	21
5	16	—	8	—	26	2	35	8	1	4	—	—	582	19 +
1	6	—	—	—	5	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	502	14
6	28	2	7	—	64	—	22	12	—	3	—	—	543	17 +
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
112	383	40	133	14	167	14	170	293	17	11	25	7	5919	23 +
41	269	50	124	34	141	—	540	405	30	81	19	10	3524	22 +
131	150	81	124	94	152	89	128	154	147	102	99	47	233	
3223	13891	902	5647	1799	9764	633	9426	13313	6141	4724	3043	285	142365	
30	65	6	30	36	18	8	43	38	12	15	22	3	942	
6	12	0	27	4	26	0	30	23	8	13	11	5	322	
9	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	14	
0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	
45	77	8	57	40	44	8	75	61	20	28	35	8	1282	
24	30	3	18	15	12	6	25	24	2	12	18	0	663	
47	124	0	288	74	308	2	401	389	188	110	75	30	3921	
20	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0		
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	13	
91	154	7	306	89	320	8	429	413	190	122	95	30	4624	
0515	0400	0630	0530	0530	0200	0530	0130	0301	0000	0545	0530	0700	0000	
2015	2030	1300	1900	2030	1800	1330	2130	1940	2030	2000	2030	1500	2200	
9	23	2	15	5	9	2	30	12	1	11	5	1	373	
5	8	2	7	4	5	1	17	6	1	6	3	1	184	

a Bewick's Wren. A Long-eared Owl reported from Talbot County almost made the list as well as a report of a singing Bachman's Sparrow from the same area; although attempts were made to corroborate these two finds and the initial details satisfactory, I chose the path of caution and left them off the main list. In this "almost good" category is a report of a "Spotted" Towhee from Washington County.

This year's count was the first of five that coincide with the Breeding Bird Atlas Project. Because of a late request for species "confirmed" as breeding during the count, I will not include a detailed report this year, but note the following species which were confirmed this year: Great Blue Heron, Canada Goose, Mallard, Wood Duck, Black Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Osprey, Peregrine Falcon, Killdeer, Woodcock, Mourning Dove, kingfisher, hummingbird, phoebe, Tree Swallow, rough-winged swallow, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, titmouse, robin, bluebird, mockingbird, catbird, Loggerhead Shrike, starling, White-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Ovenbird, House Sparrow, Common Grackle, and House Finch. A special note on this year's count comes from Garrett County: Fran Pope found an egg of a woodcock and used this to confirm the species for the Atlas, but could not use it to add this species to the May Count List!

I would like to thank each of the county compilers for their efforts in making the count tabulation easier for me. Two compilers were out of State on count day and two participated on counts they were not compiling, but did the job anyway.

### OBSERVERS

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Montgomery County: Louise Berry, Chip Bonde, Larry Bonham, Joy Bowen, Michael Bowen, Holly Carlson, Ellen & Robert Caswell, David Chatham, Grace Choy, Richard Cleveland, Morrill Donnald, William Elliott, Denise Gibbs, Rob Gibbs, Delores Grant, Evan & Ives Hannay, Robert Hilton, Marjorie Hobday, Les Holtschlag, Marilyn Hopkins, Vince Jones, Al Kenneke, Ruth Klein, Stuart MacClintock, Lynn Marks, Minette McCullough, Gloria & Irving Meade, David Mehlman (compiler: 1601 E. Jefferson Street, Apt. T-3, Rockville, Md. 20852), Mieke Mehlman, Ann & Scott Mitchell, Phyllis Morrow, Lola Oberman, Ella Pfeiffer,

Marie Plante, Cecile Roth, Bill & Joy Shafer, Margaret Sickels, Wayne Sieck, Eleanor Stewart, Keith Van Ness, David & Diane Weber, Paul Woodward.

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Baltimore County: John & Peg Barber, Peggy Bohanan, Martin Brazeau, Lettie & John Cullom, Bob Dixon, JoAnn Dreyer, Graham Eggerton, Kerry Fitzpatrick, Gail Frantz, Shirley Geddes, Betty Iber, Margaret Markham, Alice & David Nelson, Patsy & Rick Perlman, James Poultny, Mike Resch (compiler: 9142 Covered Bridge Road, Baltimore, Md. 21234), John Robinson, Alan & Barbara Ross, Stephen Simon, Chris & Eddie Slaughter, Charles Swift, Pete Webb, Jim Wilkinson, Jean & Waiva Worthley.

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Cecil County: Leland Devore, Kerry Fitzpatrick, Alex & Helene Hammer, Clarke Jeschke (compiler: 400 Patleigh Road, Catonsville, Md. 21228), Jim Wilkinson.

Prince Georges County: Steve Cardano, Wayne Crist, Rich Dolesh, John Gregoire, Gary Hensler, Sam Lyon, Elwood Martin, Paul Nistico, (Bob Patterson: non-participating compiler: 12601 Buckingham Drive, Bowie, Md. 20715), Michael Sorensen.

Anne Arundel: Charles Buchanan, Carol Belton, Pat Chiles, Amelia Cochran, Ginger Darling, Dee Deson, Phil DuMont, Laddie Flyger, Ellen Gizzarelli (compiler: 549 Maple Ridge Lane, Odenton, Md. 21113), Buntz Haines, Sally Henderson, Jack Hollis, Joanne Hollis, Emily Joyce, Debbie Mignogno, Dotty Mumford, H.G. Stevenson, Sally Symington, Ben Tappan, Gary & Sue Van Velsir, Hal Wierenga, Jan Wright.

Calvert County: John Fales (compiler: 2809 Ridge Road, Huntingtown, Md. 20639), Cdr. John Gregoire.

Charles County: Fred & Karen Burgraff, Mark Allen, Carol Ghebelan, Polly & Brian Hancock, Pat & Paul Nistico, Cal Posey, Olive Sorzano, Ray & Alden Taylor, Andrew Wilmot, George Wilmot (compiler: 401 Amherst Road, Bryans Road, Md. 20616).

St. Marys County: Anne Bishop, Patty Craig, Bradley Dorf, John Horton, Ernest Willoughby (compiler: 6 Hartman Drive, Lexington Park, Md. 20653).

Kent County: Bill & Enid Busse, Jim Gruber, Page Hartman, Steve & Mariana Hitchner, Floyd Parks (compiler: 129 Washington Avenue, Chestertown, Md. 21620), Pat Wilson, Patricia Young.

Queen Annes County: (David Holmes: non-participating compiler: 5643-A Harpers Farm Road, Columbia, Md. 21044), Roland Limpert, Wilbur Rittenhouse.

Caroline County: list lost. A.J. Fletcher (compiler: Rt. 1, Box 201, Denton, Md. 21629).

Talbot County: Terry Allen, Lester Coble (compiler: Rt. 1, Box 43-B, Trappe, Md. 21673), Dottie & Jeff Effinger, Chris Handley, Richard Kleen, Donald Meritt, Rev. & Mrs. Ivan Morrin, Jan Reese, Lucille Spain, Kathleen Trever.

Dorchester County: Henry T. Armistead (compiler: 28 E. Springfield Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. 19118).

Wicomico County: Miriam and Maurice Davis, Carol & Donald Broderick, Ruth Denit, Christine & Hellen Ferrand, Sally & Hugh Hanson, Gail Vaughn, Charles Vaughn (compiler: 1306 Frederick Ave., Salisbury, Md. 21801).

Somerset: Paul Bystrak, Polly Batchelder, Laura French, George French, Bob Reynolds, Charles Vaughn (non-participating compiler: 1306 Frederick Avenue, Salisbury, Md. 21801).

Worcester: Mary Humphreys (Peggy Bohanan: non-participating compiler: 907 Tyson Street, Baltimore, Md. 21201).

*Audubon, N.J.*

# THE SEASON

## WINTER SEASON, DECEMBER 1, 1982—FEBRUARY 28, 1983

Robert F. Ringler

This winter was marked by a warm trend, which continued into early January, and a heavy snowstorm on February 11. Precipitation had been below normal before that date and the ground was clear and water open in most areas. Many ground birds and waterfowl probably stayed farther north as a result. The massive storm that dumped up to two feet of snow over most of the State (less on the Eastern Shore) occurred when many species were beginning to migrate northward (waterfowl, icterids, woodcock). The confused birds were not hard-pressed, as the temperature rose and melting began immediately and proceeded quickly. Thus the storm probably caused little mortality.

The warm weather of December kept alive what birds lingered beyond their usual departure times. But these were apparently few, as not many stragglers were tallied on Christmas Counts. Only a few unseasonal passerines were noted this winter. The brisker weather early in the fall may have accelerated the migration at that time and few birds were left to take advantage of the early winter conditions. The American Woodcock responded noisily by performing display flights on several of the CBCs. The ponds at Deal Island Wildlife Management Area remained open and the tall waders took advantage and made a good showing into January (see Table 1); shorebirds also were notably late or overwintering.

Contributors: Maurice Barnhill, Larry Bonham, David Czaplak, Leontyne and Truman Doyle, Sam Dyke, Jeff Effinger, Ethel Engle, Hans-Joachim Feddern, Roberta Fletcher, John Gregoire, Jim Gruber, Floyd Hayes, Marvin Hewitt, Dennis Kirkwood, Kathy Klimkiewicz, Wayne Klockner, Alicia Knotts, Walter Kraus, Alice Mallonee, Debbie Mignogno, Paul Nistico, Mariana Nuttle, John, Michael, and Paul O'Brien, Bob Schutsky, Connie Skipper, Jo Solem, Jim Stasz, David Wallace, Mark Wallace, Robert Warfield, John Weske, Hal Wierenga, Jim Wilkinson, Ernie Willoughby, Erika Wilson, and Paul Woodward.

Table 1. Egrets, Herons, and Ibis at Deal Island WMA, Dec. 1982 and Jan. 1983

Date	12/4	12/8	12/20	12/31	1/4	1/13	1/15
Observers	DM	HW	DM	DM	DM	DM	DM,HW
Great Egret	3	3	—	—	—	3	—
Snowy Egret	2	8	3	1	—	—	2
Little Blue Heron	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
Tricolored Heron	9	2	—	3	3	—	3
Black-crowned Night-Heron	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
Glossy Ibis	2	—	—	—	—	—	1

*Loon, Grebes, Cormorants.* Red-throated Loons were reported to be numerous at Ocean City on Jan. 15 (Effinger + ) but only single birds were seen on Feb. 5 (Bonham) and Feb. 28 (Feddern). Another was seen off Bay Forest Road in St. Marys County on Feb. 28 (Wilson). The high count of Pied-billed Grebes for the season was 8 at Mardela Springs on Jan. 30 (Ringler). The only Red-necked Grebe reported for the season was 1 at Point Lookout on Jan. 29 (Wilson). Stasz saw a sub-adult Great Cormorant at Ocean City on Jan. 13 and there were 9 at Point Lookout on Feb. 28 (Wilson). Double-crested Cormorants are quite rare in winter but 1 was flying up the Potomac River past St. George Island on Dec. 21 (Wilson) and another was at Ocean City on Jan. 29 (Ringler + ).

*Hérons, Ibis.* In addition to the birds in Table 1 there were other notable mid-winter herons. An American Bittern was at Hughes Hollow near Seneca on Jan. 13 (Woodward). A Great Blue Heron remained at Deep Creek Lake through Dec. 28 (Skipper) and Schutsky's high count at Conowingo Dam was 113 on Feb. 10. Stasz noted a Great Egret at Irish Grove Sanctuary near Marion in early February and Czaplak saw 3 Cattle Egrets in a field along US 50 east of Salisbury on Dec. 22. Stasz also saw a Glossy Ibis at Rumbly Point on Pocomoke Sound on Jan. 13.

*Swans, Geese.* Wilson counted 122 Tundra Swans on Feb. 28 in St. Marys County. A Mute Swan was at Williston in Caroline County on Jan. 20 (Hewitt). The Greater White-fronted Goose continued into the winter at its traditional location in Harford County (Kirkwood +). Dyke found thousands of Snow Geese milling around in the skies over Salisbury on the night of Dec. 2, apparently disoriented by the unusually heavy ground fog. The birds were probably having difficulty finding their regular feeding areas and Sam found them on various unlikely water areas the following morning. A "Blue" Goose was in southern Cecil County on Dec. 11 (Barnhill, Sean McCandless) and 7 Snow Geese, including 6 "Blues" were at Merkle WMA on Feb. 26 (Gregoire). The Snow Goose flock feeding in fields in Caroline and Queen Annes counties was estimated variously from 5,000 to 10,000 during the winter. Mark Wallace had a high count of 2,887 Canada Geese wintering in Howard County this year. A heavy flight of swans and both species of geese passed over Chestertown on Feb. 22 (Gruber).

*Ducks.* There were 70 Mallards on Deep Creek Lake on Jan. 17 before the lake froze over completely on the 20th (Skipper). The 14 Northern Pintails at Rumbly Point on Feb. 1 (Stasz) may have been early spring migrants gathering for the flight north. Wilkinson found 2 Northern Shovelers at Piney Run on Jan. 25, a good mid-winter record. There were 5 Gadwalls on Deep Creek Lake at Turkey Neck on Dec. 28 (Skipper) and a flock of 60 was at Wye Mills on Jan. 30 (Ringler). The 900 Canvasbacks off Kent Island on Feb. 19 (Gruber) were a definite sign of spring migration. Two Redheads on Lake Kittamaquidi on Feb. 23 (Marty Chestern) were unusual. A mid-winter high for Ring-necked Ducks was 60 at Mardela Springs on Jan. 30 (Ringler). Single Common Eiders were reported at Ocean City on Dec. 23 (Czaplak), Jan. 27 (Klockner), and Feb. 6 (Bonham) while 8 (including 1 adult male) were there on Feb. 19 (Barnhill +). Interspersed with these were the King Eiders at Ocean City beginning with 2 on Dec. 10 (Wierenga), also 2 on Dec. 23 (Czaplak) and Jan. 15 (Effinger +), 3 on Jan. 28-30 (Ringler +) and Feb. 5-6 (Bonham), and 4 on Feb. 28 (Feddern). Either there was a frequent turnover of the eiders or considerable disagreement on their identification. Wilson counted 97 Surf Scoters and 62 White-winged Scoters in St. Marys County on Feb. 28. The 6 Hooded Mergansers at Perryville on Feb. 26 (Barnhill +) were a good number for Cecil County. Common Mergansers are rare on the Eastern Shore but 1 was near Fruitland in Wicomico County on Jan. 30 (Ringler) and 2 were on the Tuckahoe River in Caroline County on Feb. 17 (D. Brown).

*Diurnal Raptors.* Stasz and Dyke observed 8 Black Vultures in apparent courtship flight over Nassawango Creek in Wicomico County on Feb. 8 and Dyke also saw 2 pairs of Red-shouldered Hawks courting over the creek near Wango on the 13th. Klimkiewicz reports that 3 Bald Eagles wintered in the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center area this year and Schutsky's high count from the Conowingo area was 14 (5 adults, 1 sub-adult, and 8 immatures) on Jan. 29. An adult Bald Eagle was seen over Rocky Gorge Reservoir above Laurel on Jan. 11 (Paul Zucker) and a pair in courtship at Tanyard on Feb. 7 (Engle). Wierenga noted his last fall migrant Red-tailed Hawk at



Sandy Point State Park on Dec. 7. **Rough-legged Hawks** were widely reported including 3 wintering at Irish Grove (Stasz) and 2 along Little Monie Creek, both localities in Somerset County (Dyke). The highest tally was 7 at Deal Island WMA on Dec. 10 (Wierenga) with others at Rocky Gap on Dec. 3 (Klockner), 2 at Denton on Jan. 25 (Fletcher), 1 in southern Frederick County on Feb. 26 (D. Wallace), and 2 over the Wicomico County marshes opposite Vienna on Feb. 28 (Feddern). The only **Golden Eagles** reported were an immature at Blackwater Refuge on Feb. 5 (Bonham) and an adult at the mouth of Octoraro Creek in Cecil County on Feb. 10 and 22 (Schutsky). Single **Merlins** were reported at Tanyard on Dec. 4 (Engle), Rumbly Point on Feb. 19 (Effinger + ), and Hughes Hollow on Feb. 21 (Bonham). A **Peregrine Falcon** was also at Rumbly Point on Feb. 19 (Effinger + ).

**Shorebirds.** A flock of 250 **Black-bellied Plovers** was in a field in West Ocean City on Jan. 15 (Effinger + ) proving that they do not spend all their time on the sand. A **Semipalmated Plover** was a very rare winter sighting on the north end of Assateague Island on Jan. 2 (Hayes). An early spring migrant in Garrett County was the **Killdeer** at McHenry on Feb. 22 (Skipper). **American Oystercatchers** continue overwintering at Ocean City with a high of 10 seen on Jan. 28 (Ringler) and at least 1 through Feb. 19 (Barnhill + ). **Greater Yellowlegs** remained through the winter at Irish Grove, with 6 there on Jan. 14 and 8 on Feb. 19 (Effinger + ). A **Red Knot** was on the jetty at Ocean City on Dec. 22 (Czaplak). A **Least Sandpiper** and 3 **Dunlins** were in the impoundment at Hart-Miller in the Baltimore County part of Chesapeake Bay on Jan. 1 (Blom, Ringler, Bob Stanhope); and 2 more **Least Sandpipers** were seen at Ocean City regularly through Jan. 27 (Klockner). A **Purple Sandpiper** was at Sandy Point from Jan. 2 (Wierenga) through the 11th (Klockner). Gruber found 6 **Dunlins** on Kent Island on Feb. 17. Dave Wallace found up to 9 **Common Snipe** in the Lilypons area in January and February and 1 was at Hughes Hollow on Jan. 23 (Wilkinson).

**Jaegers, Gulls.** Single unidentified jaegers were seen at Sandy Point on Dec. 5 and off Assateague on Dec. 29 (Wierenga). All the **Little Gull** sightings were from Dec. 23-30 with 5 adults on the former date (Czaplak) and 4 adults with 1 immature on the latter date (Klockner). The only **Black-headed Gull** was reported at Ocean City on Dec. 22 (Czaplak). Warfield noted his first migrant **Ring-billed Gull** over Germantown on Jan. 24. An immature **Thayer's Gull** was photographed at Howard County's Alpha Ridge Sanitary Landfill on Dec. 20 and 24 (Blom, Ringler) and another off Ocean City on Jan. 30 (Wierenga + ). **Iceland Gulls** were fairly numerous with 3 different first-winter birds at Alpha Ridge from Dec. 20 through Feb. 17 (Blom, Ringler + ), though Jan. 15 was the only day all 3 were seen together. Another was on Liberty Lake on Dec. 18 (Blom + ), 1 at the Laytonsville Landfill on Jan. 8 and Feb. 10 (Wierenga), 1 at Ocean City Jan. 28-29 (Ringler + ), and 1 at Salisbury on Jan. 29 (Stasz + ). **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** were again the most numerous and widespread of the rarer winter gulls, including 4 at Alpha Ridge on Dec. 20 (Blom, Ringler) with at least 1 through Feb. 17, 2 adults at Liberty Lake on Dec. 18 (Blom + ), another at Salisbury through Jan. 29 (Stasz), 1 all winter at Wittman and 2 there on Jan. 6 (Effinger), and the regular birds at Hains Point through Jan. 6 (Czaplak + ) and at Fort McHenry through the season. An immature **Glaucous Gull** was on Liberty Lake on Dec. 18 (Blom + ), another at Alpha Ridge from Dec. 24 through Jan. 28 (Blom, Ringler + ), and 2 there on Jan. 14. A **Great Black-backed Gull** was flying up the Potomac River near Hughes Hollow on Jan. 25 (Woodward) and 5 were up the Choptank River at Denton on Feb. 21 (Hewitt). Other counts of **Great Black-backs** inland were 27 at Laytonsville on Dec. 23 and Feb. 24 (Wierenga), 40 at Alpha Ridge on Dec. 24 (Blom, Ringler), 570 at Conowingo on Jan. 5 (Schutsky), and 5 at Triadelphia Reservoir on Feb. 10 (M. Wallace).



*Terns, Skimmers, Dovekie.* Czaplak estimated 200 Forster's Terns at Ocean City on Dec. 22; Klockner estimated 150 there on Jan. 14, and birds were still present on Feb. 19 (Barnhill + ). Black Skimmers at Ocean City decreased from 8 on Dec. 22 (Czaplak), 7 on Dec. 24 (Bonham), and 5 on Jan. 14 and 27 (Klockner), to 1 on Jan. 30 (Ringler). A Dovekie was at Ocean City inlet on Dec. 10 (Wierenga).

*Owls.* Wierenga counted 5 Common Barn-Owls at Deal Island WMA on Dec. 8, found a Long-eared Owl on Assateague on Dec. 28-29, and a Saw-whet Owl on Assateague on the 28th also. Another Long-eared Owl was at Piney Run on Jan. 28 (Wilkinson). Short-eared Owls included 8 at Irish Grove through the season (Stasz), 2 at Deal Island WMA on Dec. 8 (Wierenga), up to 4 wintering in Frederick County (D. Wallace + ), 1 on Assateague on Jan. 15 (Effinger + ), and 1 at Hughes Hollow on Feb. 22 (Woodward).

*Phoebes, Larks, Ravens.* February Eastern Phoebes were at Salisbury on the 12th (Dyke) and Denton on the 22nd (Knotts). The largest flocks of Horned Larks reported were 150-200 in southern Frederick County through the season (D. Wallace + ) and 300 near Keysville in Carroll County on Feb. 19 (Ringler). The only Northern Raven reported was along Cherry Creek in Garrett County on Dec. 4 (Skipper).

*Wrens, Thrushes, Pipits, Shrikes.* A House Wren was in Annapolis on Dec. 6 (Wierenga) and a Marsh Wren at Sandy Point on Jan. 11 (Wilkinson). A Wood Thrush visited Anne Walsh's yard in central Howard County from Dec. 24 through Jan. 16. The observation was confirmed by Marty Chestem. The only flock of Water Pipits reported was at Sandy Point on Dec. 15 and numbered 22 (Wierenga). Three reports of Loggerhead Shrikes came from Caroline County, with single birds at Bethlehem on Dec. 2, Preston on Dec. 4 (Engle), and Burrsville on Dec. 18 (Nuttall). Others were also singles in Baltimore on Jan. 1-6 (Bill Ellis + ) and at Lilypons on Jan. 23 (Bonham).

*Vireos and Warblers.* A White-eyed Vireo was extremely rare in Rockville on Jan. 5 and 8 (Paul and John O'Brien). In St. Marys County Wilson noted 15 Pine Warblers on St. George Island on Dec. 21, 2 at Point Lookout on Jan. 29, and 2 singing on Bay Forest Road on Feb. 28. A Palm Warbler was in Baltimore County near Woodstock on Dec. 2 (Wilkinson).

*Sparrows, Longspurs, and Snow Buntings.* A Lincoln's Sparrow was at Oxon Hill on Dec. 17 (Czaplak). A migrant Fox Sparrow was at Piney Creek Road in Queen Annes County on Feb. 28 (Feddern). Lapland Longspurs were present in southern Frederick County from at least Jan. 9 through Feb. 28 with a high of 8 on the latter date (O'Briens + ). Others were a male near Boonsboro on Feb. 14 (Doyles), another male near Hagerstown on Broadfording Road (Doyles, Cutchalls), and 4 near Keysville in Carroll County on Feb. 19 (Ringler). Up to 20 Snow Buntings were in the Horned Lark flock in southern Frederick County from Jan. 9 through Feb. 26 (O'Briens + ). Others were at Sandy Point through Dec. 2 (Wierenga) and 7 at the Hart-Miller impoundment on Jan. 1 (Ringler, Blom, Bob Stanhope).

*Blackbirds, Orioles, and Cardueline Finches.* An adult male Yellow-headed Blackbird was seen near St. Marks Church in Somerset County on Dec. 16 (Stasz). A "Baltimore" Northern Oriole was in Columbia on Feb. 15 (Frances Dawson) and 2 wintered in Bowie through Mar. 13 (Feddern). Purple Finch was the only one of the northern finches to be common this winter. They were present in large numbers in several places with an overwhelming preponderance of brown-plumaged birds, probably indicating a heavy migration of immatures. Few Evening Grosbeaks were reported, though 9 were at Hughes Hollow on Jan. 1 (Woodward). The exception in Garrett County was where Connie Skipper had 20 at her feeder on Bray Hill on Jan. 6, 45-50 on Feb. 2, and 20-30 through the rest of the season.

3501 Melody Lane, Baltimore, MD 21207

# Annual Report of the Treasurer Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc. Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 1983

## Operating Fund 1982-83

	Budget	Actual	Balances
Dues	\$ 7,200	\$ 8,199.50	\$19,151.35
Transfer from SEF for Life Members	350	360.00	(4/30/82)
Interest from pooled funds <sup>1</sup>	2,700	2,304.39	
Convention Income	950	1,244.00	
Income on Publications	300	87.40	
Contr. from Balto. Chap. for Mail Permit	20	20.00	
Gifts - General	0	550.00	
Gifts - Atlas Program	0	1,082.59	
Unrecorded Income <sup>2</sup>	0	30.77	
	<u>11,520</u>	<u>13,878.65</u>	<u>13,878.65</u>
			33,030.00
Birdlife Printing	3,300	3,153.01	
Birdlife Postage	250	513.57	
Yellowthroat Printing	1,600	1,760.00	
Yellowthroat Postage	375	424.30	
Yellowthroat Phone Bill	0	67.15	
Executive Secretary Stipend	3,000	0	
Postage General	200	20.00	
Bulk Mail Permits	40	80.00	
Bulk Mailings	80	80.00	
Printing & Duplication	170	0	
Office Supplies & Misc.			
Safe Deposit Box	22.50		
Checking Account	8.47		
Stationery	119.50		
Treasurer - misc.	94.68		
	301	245.15	
Atlas Committee	3,000	2,782.00	
Education Committee	100	3.50	
Library Committee	75	0	
Research Committee	750	0	
Convention Committee	550	739.89	
Affiliations & Membership	300	150.00	
Verification Committee	100	0	
Contingencies			
Oriole Proj. Return	200.00		
Auto Insurance	78.00		
Broker	392.17		
	200	270.17	
Purchase of MOS Decals	250	322.47	
Computerized labels for bulk mailings	570	539.70	
	<u>15,211</u>	<u>11,150.91</u>	<u>11,150.91</u>
			21,879.09
			(4/30/83)

## Sanctuary Fund 1982-83

	Budget	Actual	Balances
			\$24,423.30 <sup>2</sup>
Contributions	\$ 3,500	\$ 2,346.54	(4/30/82)
Transfer from Sanctuary Endowment Fund	1,650	1,716.22	
Interest from Pooled Funds	2,600	2,938.73	
Sale of Sanctuary Signs	200	220.01	
Gal & Oil Lease	150	52.30	
User Fees - Irish Grove	200	370.00	
User Fees - Carey Run	0	12.00	
User Fees - tum Suden	0	24.00	
	8,300	7,679.80	7,679.80
			32,103.10

## Sanctuary Endowment Fund 1982-83

Income		(4/30/82)	31,880.00
Life Memberships	225	0	
Investment Interest & Dividends	2,000	2,020.97	
Interest from Pooled Funds	0	55.25	
Contributions	0	20.00	
	2,225	2,096.22	2,096.22
			33,976.22
Disbursements			
Transfer to Operating Fund	350	360.00	
Transfer to Sanctuary Fund	1,650	1,716.22	
	2,000	2,076.22	2,076.22
			31,900.00
			(4/30/83)

<sup>1</sup>Included 1982 Helen Miller Scholarship payment of 575.00 5/11/82 which should have been charged to 1981 82 budget.

<sup>2</sup>Included 1982 O.C.M. Scholarship payment of 575.00 5/14/82 which should have been charged to 1981-82 budget.

<sup>3</sup>Scholarships budgeted at 575.00@ turned out to actually be 640.00@ due to rising costs.

*See next page for Reconciliation of Accounts*

## AUDITING COMMITTEE

I have examined the financial records of the Maryland Ornithological Society for the year April 30, 1982 through April 30, 1983. In my opinion the aforementioned records accurately present the financial position of the Society.

*Rodney B. Jones, Chairman*

# Reconciliation of Accounts at End of Fiscal Year

## Fund Balances, April 30, 1983

Operating Fund	\$21,879.09
MOS Scholarship Fund	18,270.49
Sanctuary Fund	27,458.68 <sup>1</sup>
Sanctuary Endowment Fund	31,900.00
	<hr/>
	99,508.26

## Fund Assets, April 30, 1983

Checking Account, Maryland National Bank	738.14 <sup>2</sup>
Savings Account, Loyola FSLA	3,717.14 <sup>2</sup>
T. Rowe Price Prime Reserve Fund	42,883.14 <sup>2</sup>
Southwestern Bell Co. Bond	10,171.25 <sup>5</sup>
Dayton Power & Light Bond	3,012.67 <sup>3</sup>
Virginia Electric Power Bond	3,992.04 <sup>3</sup>
Loyola CD #168238	3,500.00 <sup>3</sup>
T. Rowe Price Growth Stock Fund	9,500.00 <sup>4</sup>
Loyola CD #168239	6,820.00 <sup>4</sup>
General Telephone Co. Southeast Bond	5,129.92 <sup>4</sup>
Niagara Mohawk Power Co. Bond	4,983.15 <sup>4</sup>
Ohio Bell Telephone Co. Bond	4,987.81 <sup>4</sup>
Uncashed checks awaiting deposit	73.00 <sup>2</sup>
	<hr/>
	99,508.26

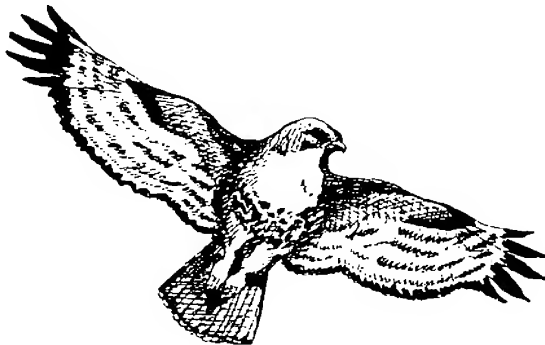
<sup>1</sup>Includes restricted Anne Arundel Chapter gift of \$5,202.10

<sup>2</sup>Pooled Funds

<sup>3</sup>MOS Scholarship Fund investments at cost

<sup>4</sup>Sanctuary Endowment Fund investments at cost

<sup>5</sup>Operating Fund in investment at cost



## Annual Reports of Local Chapters

### Anne Arundel Chapter

The Anne Arundel Chapter had an eventful year. The schedule called for 23 field trips of varying length prior to the MOS convention. Nineteen of these have been carried out to places as close as Sandy Point State Park and as far afield as Chincoteague. Snowy weather and other odd problems accounted for the cancelled trips. Our cumulative trip list for the 19 trips comes to over 200 species, a total we consider quite acceptable.

In addition to the field trips, the Anne Arundel Chapter had a picnic to open the season, six regular meetings, and a special fund-raising program. Speakers included Bob Ringler on the MOS Atlas Project, our own Gary VanVelsir on Alaskan flora and fauna, Jim Stasz on Nassawango Preserve, John Taylor on bird life and the artist, and David Holmes on Africa. We also enjoyed the movie "Why Birds Sing."

Our Richard E. Heise, Jr., Annual Wildlife Lecture featured the film "Birds of the Indian Monsoon", which told of the Indian sanctuary near Bharatphar and the bird life which inhabits it during the year. The program netted approximately \$400, which was divided between the MOS Sanctuary Fund and the MOS Scholarship Fund.

A highlight of the club year was the beginning of the atlas project. A program given by Bob Ringler in October stimulated a great deal of interest in atlasing, and several members have become involved on statewide atlas committees. Jim Cheevers assumed the role of county coordinator for Anne Arundel County, and under his guidance the project has been launched with a great deal of enthusiasm. A training meeting by Chandler Robbins generated additional interest and attracted additional volunteers. At this writing, all blocks have been assigned and within each quad a number of volunteers are already at work.

Still on the agenda are four field trips, one of which is a weekend jaunt to Carey Run, and the season's end picnic, which will be held at the Chesapeake Environmental Research Center on the Rhode River in Edgewater.

More than 15 talks have also been given by members to a total audience of over 400 persons in school and club groups.

As the season draws to a close, I would like to express my appreciation to the officers of the club, all of whom have contributed a great deal to the success of the club during this year. Those officers are: Dotty Mumford, first vice president; Jim Cheevers, second vice president (program chairman); Jo Izak, treasurer; Marilyn VanScyoc, corresponding secretary; Pam Lee, recording secretary; and directors Gary VanVelsir and Rhonda Brown.

EMILY D. JOYCE, PRESIDENT

## Baltimore Chapter

Baltimore Chapter activities branch in many directions. Workshops, lectures in ornithology, and audio visuals scheduled monthly add to the cultural background of appreciation of the avian element in the web of life. This year our imaginative Program chair injected the study of avian evolution and evolution in general into the Program, a departure from our usual ornithological fare. These proved to be popular subjects. The personal satisfaction discovered in these pursuits seems to generate a strong desire to share such knowledge with the questioning public. With education as one of our primary objectives we open all our activities to the general public, with strong emphasis on young people. The procession of school children through Cylburn is still led by a solid coterie of volunteers. MOS volunteer leaders can also be found at Irvine Natural Science Center and the new Oregon Ridge Nature Center. Extending our services out from nature centers to churches, senior citizen centers, libraries and schools has also reached hundreds of people of all ages.

Junior Nature Camp in its 23rd year was directed by John Robinson, who himself had been a camper and more recently a popular leader of spider study. Fifty campers were led by 25 expert volunteer leaders in bird study, pond and stream study, insect study and all the varied kinds of nature that Camp Hashawha in Carroll County has to offer. Having a Director who has received his love and knowledge of nature by way of MOS Junior Nature Camp did much to ensure the continuation of this project.

Publicity has been sought by our Publicity Chair in many media, and where it has been used has generated a noticeable increase in participation by the public. Publicity was linked with a desire for a rise in membership, resulting in the design of a new MOS brochure. Responsibility for its distribution was put in the hands of a new Membership Committee which passed the responsibility for the major distribution to the shoulders of the current membership, each receiving 2 brochures to pass among friends. Our membership continues to hold at 650 plus as it has for the past few years. Of this, 16% is new, the larger percentage being long time members with strong commitment to MOS. The new Membership Committee has also established a Members' Interest File to be used by the nominating committee.

Cylburn continues to be the focus of our attention as a meeting place and as a place for study and bird observation. Our museum is visited by a delighted portion of the public on many occasions — Cylburn Open House, Market Day, etc. There are at these scheduled occasions always MOS members on hand to interpret the exhibits. Our competent Curator has sent out a plea for additions to the spring warbler collection. The specimens now on display are losing their colors after many years. New birds when found should be put into a plastic bag and placed in a freezer before contacting Cylburn. Our relationship with the Cylburn Arboretum Association thrives in the friendly liaison maintained by our representative to their board.

The MOS Bookstore now housed at Irvin Natural Science Center at Greenspring Avenue north of Cylburn prospers in its new location. Call 484-2413 for information and book lists. It maintains its standing as the best collection of nature books on sale in Baltimore.

Conservation of Maryland's natural environment has always been uppermost on our list of objectives. Often this must be through political action and we have not hesitated to make our voices heard in Annapolis. Letters, phone calls, testimony at hearings were all carried out when alerted to action by our Conservation Committee chair. We are lucky to have the chair of the MOS State Conservation Committee as our leader in these pursuits. See her report for details.

Participation in statewide activities by Baltimore Chapter members has always been noticeable. The new thrust to complete the Maryland Atlas Project in 5 years involved many of us in the planning stages as well as in the actual field work. Our Coordinator, Bob Dixon, Sparks, MD, 472-2224, is assigning areas in Baltimore County for further survey after our 1978-81 effort. Though our data for these years will be accepted, we welcome this unexpected chance to augment our findings, as well as the chance to lend our experience in other counties.

Work Days at the Sanctuaries have enjoyed strong participation from Baltimore Chapter. We have found them good times and places to accomplish the assigned tasks as well meet MOS members from around the state. The best place for mixing with MOS members statewide continues to be the Convention where Baltimore Chapter was again represented by field trip leaders and participants, officers and chairs of many committees, topped off by a busy Bookstore.

Sadly we voted to discontinue the Audubon Wildlife Lecture Series. Diminishing audiences and increasing prices were only part of our reasons for this action. For 15 years we had provided this outstanding service to the Baltimore public.

Several projects were funded from the interest earned by our investment, The Dorothy Blake Martin Fund: publication of the new membership brochure; assistance to the Nature Conservancy in the publishing of the Proceedings of the Endangered Species Symposium, Towson State University, 1981; assistance to the bluebird project at Robert Moton School, Carroll County; and contribution to the MOS Eleanor C. Robbins Scholarship Fund.

When asked for ideas for goals looking to the future, the Board mentioned expanded junior programs, more Audubon Scholarships, more political action, more visibility among the citizenry, more effort toward the Atlas Project. None of these is easy, but with the commitment traditional among our membership, we will prevail.

JOY WHEELER

### Caroline County Chapter

The Caroline County Chapter met on the second Friday of the month in the educational building of St. Luke's Methodist Church in Denton. Our programs included a talk on Eastern Neck Wildlife Refuge by manager Paul Daly. A representative from Stanford Seed Company talked on feeding birds and the virtues of their seeds. We made plans for a bird seed sale after the meeting. Joe Hughes, a master basket maker, demonstrated the steps, tools, and skills you need to make a basket out of split oak. Dr. Robert Trever's presentation on "Strange Creatures of Australia" lived up to its billing. Bob Schall and Linda Densmore talked about local Indian artifacts and left us wondering if we shouldn't spend at least a little time looking down at our feet when out walking.



We have started two fundraising activities that we hope to continue in future years. We had a bird seed sale in January, but will have it earlier next year because many people had already stocked up at the beginning of cold weather. Our second activity was building and selling bluebird houses. A club member, Ollie Smith, sold over twenty houses at the Smith Ford Garage in Denton. We already have the wood to build about 100 houses next year.

An offshoot of the sale of bluebird houses was the start of bluebird trails in our surrounding area. Once we got set up for making houses it wasn't difficult to make a few extra. We put out twenty-five houses including sixteen at Tuckahoe State Park. We plan to add more next year, working toward establishing several respectable trails.

We went on fall field trips to the Little Creek area and to Blackwater. Almost everyone added the White-fronted Goose to their life list on the Blackwater trip. After regretting not having seen the Gyrfalcons near Lancaster last year we lost little time planning a trip when they were reported back at the same location and were lucky enough to see both birds.

The club's membership stood at forty-nine at the end of the season, a new high.

STEVE WESTRE, President

### **Carroll County Chapter**

The Carroll County Chapter is the smallest chapter in the MOS, but with only 15 members, it's not unusual to get more than 50% turnout at meetings and bird walks. We have meetings only four times a year, in September, November, February, and April. This past year, slide lectures by the Chapter President on raptor identification, and by Chan Robbins on birds of Maryland were included in our meetings. The chapter sponsors the Liberty Reservoir Christmas Bird Count, which involved the efforts of 48 birders this year. The chapter has also sponsored the Breeding Bird Atlas in Carroll County for 2 years, and will continue its support as the statewide atlas gets underway. A highlight of last year's atlas effort was a Golden-crowned Kinglet singing on territory in a spruce grove near the Pennsylvania line.

Walks by the chapter during the past year included Piney Run County Park, Hawk Mountain (Golden Eagle), the National Arboretum (Saw-whet Owl!), and Liberty Watershed in Strawbridge Estates.

We hope that the statewide atlas effort publicity will attract more lone birders to our mini-chapter; we have made a lot of new contacts with county birders already.

BILL ELLIS, President

### **Frederick County Chapter**

The main activity of the chapter, as in past years, was the monthly meeting, which drew an average attendance of about 40 or slightly more than half the membership. The highlight was the annual Christmas dinner meeting which attracted a record 79 people to feast at the Araby United Methodist Church and hear Jean Worthley's beautifully illustrated talk on wildflowers. Speakers at the monthly meetings included Bob Ringler ("Winter Birding in New England"), David Thorndill ("American Birds: Some Prosper, Some Perish"), Kitty Marconi ("Birds of Prey and Their Uses"), Kathy Klimkiewicz ("Florida Wildlife"), Ed Seligmann ("The Nature



Conservancy"), Mr. and Mrs. Donald Cutchall ("Developing a Backyard Sanctuary"), and Anneke Davis ("Maryland Wildflowers").

The chapter's meeting place was changed, in mid year, from Hood College to Frederick High School.

Field trips took members to Gambrill and Washington Monument State Parks, Lilypons, Lake Linganore, the C and O Canal at Seneca and at Noland's Ferry, a private bluebird trail east of Emmitsburg, and two private sanctuaries on Braddock Heights.

For the first time in many years the Catocin Christmas Count participants (24 of them) were not led by John Richards of Mount St. Mary's College and led by Ruth Richards, but Bill and Frances Shirey of Frederick maintained the traditions of the Christmas Count in fine style. The day-long count was one of the least uncomfortable in recent memory, thanks to relatively mild weather, but this did not inspire the birds to turn out in record numbers.

The 1983 May Count was also blessed with good weather. The final accounting is not ready as this report is written, but the species count was well over 100.

Frederick County's participation in the Maryland/D.C. Breeding Bird Atlas project was taking shape toward the end of the chapter year. David Wallace volunteered to serve as local coordinator for Frederick County and attended several planning meetings at Patuxent during the winter. On April 21 Chan Robbins conducted an Atlas training session in Frederick for 36 interested people. At the moment about 40 of the county's 70 blocks have been assigned to volunteer observers.

Chapter members participated in the fall and spring raptor watches at Monument Knob and in the International Shorebird Survey (at Lilypons and along New Design Road), contributed to the seasonal reports published in *Maryland Birdlife* and *American Birds*, and participated in a Spring Nature Festival organized by chapter member Elinor Miller to stimulate awareness of our endangered natural heritage and to raise money to send 10 children to the Baltimore Chapter's junior nature camp at Camp Hashawa in Carroll County.

Chapter members' dues and some extra income from the sale of sunflower seed made it possible for the chapter to make donations to the Camp Hashawa Scholarship Fund, the MOS Sanctuary Fund, the Swan Research Fund of the Wildfowl Trust, the Maryland/D.C. Breeding Bird Atlas, and the Costa Rican National Parks Foundation (through The Nature Conservancy).

At the April meeting the current officers and committee chairs were re-elected to serve for the 1983-84 year.

DAVID WALLACE, President

## Howard County Chapter

1983/1983 was a good year for our Chapter. We increased our membership by 58 to reach a total of 242 members (93 new); initiated several new activities, recorded some birds new to the County; continued work on old projects; and tried through varied activities to reach birders and potential birders at all levels of expertise.

In June, we participated in the Howard County Recreation Exposition, held in the Columbia Mall. Our exhibit, which features our mounted bird specimens, is popular and presents the Chapter with opportunities to recruit, educate, and dispel "why did you kill that pretty bird" fears.

In August, for the first time, we participated in the Howard County Fair and again our exhibit focused on the mounted bird specimens. This activity provided the opportunity to meet new Howard County birders and potential birders and generate good will for our Chapter. The ultimate accolade was accorded the Chapter — we had to "talk our way in" and after our presentation, were invited back! The Fair Chairman said that many people commented on our Exhibit and the Chapter participants had a good time too.

Our programs, ably organized by Nicholas Short, were well attended and each program attracted a different audience, reflecting the range of interest of our Chapter's members. We reinstituted a hospitality table and name tags both for members and visitors. The Hospitality Committee and other members sought out our visitors to make them feel at home. A really popular feature of our monthly programs was the Bookstore headed by Jan Randall. The name Bookstore does not describe the wide variety of stock carried: Pelican pouches, records, and our new Howard County MOS T-shirts and sweatshirts. Now we can attend a free evening program and go home broke!

Eva Sunell, Field Trip Chairman, did a splendid job arranging trips to attract all levels of birders. Of special interest were the trips labeled "for beginners" which concentrated on a small area or home feeders with identification tips and advice on binocular use. Our annual potluck dinner (postponed by snow) and the May Count tally dinner were well attended and enjoyable, both for the company and the food.

In the area of identification, seven birds new to the County were identified: Baird's Sandpiper, Red Phalarope, European Widgeon, and Lesser Black-backed, Glaucous, Iceland, and Thayer's Gulls. As you can see by the gulls, Howard County's new landfill is known for its high class garbage. Our thanks to all who identified and shared.

We took advantage of our new Central Library's Meeting Room to present two "drop-in" workshops. The first was in the Fall and was a Birding Weekend which featured identification tips, slide presentations, binocular/scope/camera demonstrations, discussion of field guides, bookstore, feeder and seed table, and our mounted bird specimens. A Spring Wildflower Workshop was the second library presentation and featured field trips, identification, discussions of field guides, and the bookstore. The Wildflower Workshop resulted from the continuing project to catalog the wildflowers of Howard County. This project was conceived and is flourishing under the leadership of Bob Solem along with Jo Solem and Chuck Dupree.

Our semi-annual seed sales continue to generate revenue for our Chapter and enable us to maintain our low membership fee and to donate to worthwhile projects. This year Chairman Eileen Clegg again did a stupendous job.

Since education is a goal of all, club members made over 25 presentations to approximately 600 people. We continue to co-sponsor trips with the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks and are co-sponsoring a Bluebird Project in several County parks.

Our newsletter, produced by Jo Solem, continues to inform, unite, and entertain our Chapter; her other contributions are too numerous to mention.

In closing, it is a pleasure to be president of a chapter with contributions by so many members that I am unable to list them all by name: So, THANK YOU!

JANE H. FARRELL, President

### Kent County Chapter

The Kent County Chapter entertained 6 guest speakers in this our 25th year. They were: John V. Dennis, who brought his two books on feeding birds: *A Complete Guide to Bird Feeding*, and *Beyond the Bird Feeder*; Margery Plymire shared her experiences of her work with the Puffin Project; Dr. J. William Oberman presented the Identification of Sparrows and Finches; Tad Eareckson covered "Wintering Waterfowl"; Kathy Klimkiewicz showed slides about her work with Purple Martins; and Anneke Davis was the dinner-meeting speaker with her slides on the Pine Barrens. Each of the six speakers brought great enthusiasm and glorious experiences which they shared from their encounters with birds and the out-of-doors.

About 300 persons participated in the 13 activities and the membership grew by several new members. While the program committee continues to provide excellent speakers and opportunities for learning and expansion of interests, the growth of the Kent Chapter seems to suffer the same ills as most of the chapters — too few people to do all the necessary jobs and outreach. Basically the Chapter held its own with 62 adult members and 3 juniors.

PAT WILSON, President

### Montgomery County Chapter

Our season began on a sad note when members learned of the death of Carl Carlson, founder and first president of our Chapter and a constant source of guidance and support. Many members made contributions in his honor to our Memorial Scholarship Fund, established a year ago. Awards from this fund enabled two of our members, Katy Meade and Mary Thomson, to attend summer Audubon camps, and we heard inspiring reports from both of them.

The Chapter continued to meet at the Chevy Chase Public Library, grateful for rent-free quarters spacious enough to accommodate our numbers, which average 75 at a meeting and often exceed 100. The library was not available to us in November and December, and we survived the confusion of having to move those meetings to Woodend, the headquarters of the Audubon Naturalist Society, with which we have a close working relationship.

Our programs, arranged by Claudia Wilds and John Malcolm, were outstanding. Bill Clark enlightened us on "The Identification of Eastern Raptors." Rich Rowlett, our long-time member back from one of his pelagic adventures, held us spellbound with his accounts of "Birding the Antarctic," accompanied by his stunning photographs. Luther Goldman, with equally impressive photography, took us on a tour of refuges in the western United States. Jeff Swinebroad gave an innovative presentation on "Birds of Germany," with musical sound-track to accompany his magnificent color slides. Proving that birders broad interests, a record crowd turned out to hear Doug Morton speak on "Earthquakes and Faults in Southern California." Don Messersmith, with characteristic wit and insight, shared with us his experiences on a birding trip to China; and another of our members, Daphne Gemmill, took us to a remote island off the coast of Australia for close-up views of the Shy Albatross. For our final meeting of the season, we were highly entertained by the Smithsonian's Roxie Laybourne who spoke on "The Use of Feathers in Law Enforcement."

Our Annual Social, moved from snowy January to balmy March, was held at the National 4-H Center and ably chaired by Gary Nelson. John Malcolm organized a highly successful raffle, with prizes contributed by merchants, which added zest to the occasion and more than \$300 to our coffers.

Paul O'Brien gave us a season of 21 well-planned and (usually) well-attended field trips. One was cancelled because of a blizzard, and two were held in weather so disagreeable that only one sturdy birder showed up to join the leader. Average attendance was 12 per trip, with a high of 28 for the traditional Cape May weekend in the fall. Once again, our "behind the scenes" tour of the Smithsonian Bird Division, led by Roxie Laybourne and limited to 15, was oversubscribed. Our "first annual picnic" combined with birding trip was undersubscribed, but those who attended voted it a great success and worth trying again.

Bill Oberman fielded an enthusiastic team for the Seneca Christmas Count, with a final report of 99 species, in spite of the heavy snow that began at noon. Again, the Tally Rally was held at Adventure and superbly managed by Delores Grant.

Dave Mehlman coordinated our May Count again this year, recruiting 45 enthusiasts who found a total of 135 species, a slight drop from last year's 138, but with remarkable numbers of warblers, Scarlet Tanagers, and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks.

A number of our members are involved in the Breeding Bird Atlas and our coordinator, Keith Van Ness, anticipates that all the blocks in the County will soon be assigned. A training session was held at Seneca Creek State Park, led by Chan Robbins and attended by about 40 birders who promptly signed up for territories.

The banding station activities at Adventure, under Margaret Donald's administration, attract many birds, volunteers, and visitors. This year, Margaret was assisted by 11 sub-permittees and 28 aides, most of them Chapter members. The total new birds banded during the spring and fall seasons of 1982 was 5,346. Seven new species were added to the list this year, bringing the total to 132 species over a ten-year period, with a total of 47,000 birds. Demonstrations were given to 32 groups, comprising 460 people, and to 183 additional individual visitors. Two special projects have been undertaken this year: the color banding of chickadees and titmice

to study flocking patterns and to observe behavior; and the initiation of a program to put bird banding records on computer to facilitate data analysis and report preparation.

We were pleased to have the MOS Board hold its March meeting at Adventure, in spite of a fire in February that damaged the building, which is under the jurisdiction of the Park Service.

The Chapter has undertaken a project to compile a bird list for Montgomery County, with Harvey Mudd chairing the committee in charge.

Bob Caswell, who serves as a self-appointed committee of one to sell birdseed at our meetings, declared a profit of \$229 this year, bringing the total earnings over the past 11 years to about \$1500, all of which goes to the MOS Sanctuary Fund.

At the March meeting, the following officers were elected for 1983-84: Paul O'Brien, President; Gary Nelson, Vice-President; Vincent Jones, Treasurer; David Mehlman, Secretary; Margaret Donald, Philip A. DuMont, and Lola Oberman, Trustees.

LOLA OBERMAN, President

## Patuxent Chapter

The inspiring speakers at our monthly meetings included Dr. Donald Messersmith, who, in March 1982 took us on a "Belize Expedition" and in November 23, 1982 took us "Birding in Northeast China (formerly Manchuria)". In April, Lola and Ted Oberman showed slides they took on their spring trip to Point Pelee National Park, Ontario. Here exhausted migrants rest and search for food.

At our May 1982 Members Night, Paul Bystrak showed slides of the work day at Irish Grove Sanctuary and the one at Carey Run. At the latter he photographed the state butterfly, the Baltimore checkerspot, Turks cap lily, and ragged fringed orchid. Danny Bystrak took us on a spring trip to Block Island with Paul Leifer to see the gull colony, the Upland Sandpipers and Grasshopper Sparrows. Joe Ondrejko and Dale Braeuninger also showed slides.

In September Kathy Klimkiewicz told us about her 10-year Purple Martin banding project. In January Dan Boone explained our Maryland Natural Heritage Program. This is one of the 29 such programs in the U.S. and Costa Rica which Nature Conservancy launched. After 3 years in Nature Conservancy, the Maryland Heritage Program moved to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Here the location of each rare plant and animal is entered on a computer. Dan, also an excellent ornithologist and photographer, with a good knowledge of the geography of Maryland, is employed as the botanist. His slides ranged from a Wilson's Plover nest on Assateague I. to seldom seen bog plants in logs in western Maryland.

C. S. Robbins in October showed slides about the International Ornithological Congress in August 1982 in Moscow and the post-Congress trip to Lake Baikal in southern Siberia. On the 1-day field excursion Chan went to their sound recording lab in the new city of Pushino on the Oka River 60 miles from Moscow.

On February 22, 1983 Chan Robbins launched our 5-year Maryland Breeding Bird Atlas Project. He explained that the ATLAS OF BRITISH FLORA inspired preparation of ATLAS OF BREEDING BIRDS IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND, and

of several similar projects in European nations and in many of our states. In fact Montgomery and Howard Counties have taken such surveys and Washington and Prince George's were in the process. Since the rest of the State is now joining, these counties will make new surveys.

In March 1983 William L. Murphy spoke about the Sutton's Warbler.

Eleanor Robbins continued to publish a column in the weekly LAUREL LEADER. Her Activities Fund earned \$229 in 1982 from which a small contribution was made by help pay the heat bill at St. Philip's Church where we have been meeting for more than 10 years, and to MOS Scholarship and Sanctuary Funds.

Our officers for 1983-84 are: President, Virginia Kuykendall; Vice President, William L. Murphy; Treasurer, Dale Braeuninger; Secretary, Jean Jonkel, and MOS Director, Chandler S. Robbins.

VIRGINIA KUYKENDALL, President

### Talbot County Chapter

Once again the Talbot chapter had a busy year. Membership increased from 73 to about 100. In the usual areas of field trips, regular meetings and conservation activities, we have had a very good year with a large percentage of the membership participating.

In respect to regular meetings we've had programs by many talented persons on a variety of subjects. Highlights were as follows: "Nassawango Nature Conservancy" by Jim Stasz, "Naturalist on the Nanticoke" by Robert Hedeon, "Birds of the U.S.A." by Robert Ringler, and two lectures featuring Peru given by our own member, Dr. Robert Trever. During our meetings this year efforts were made to get our members interested in the new "Chickadee Checkoff" - or Senate Bill 158 - which will provide funding for conservation programs for nongame animals and plants. Persons may provide, through individual income tax forms, for voluntary contributions to such fund. Our club has also elected a member, Donald Merritt, to be head of our Breeding Bird Atlas project in Talbot County. A regional meeting was held on March 30 in Easton for the purpose of explaining and recruiting volunteers for the project. Although the response was poor at this meeting, I'm confident that when our people are familiar with the duties involved, the Atlas will be underway this summer.

From monies granted by the annual Waterfowl Festival in Easton, the chapter has almost completed the producing and assembling of 20 Wood Duck nesting boxes in Talbot County. A few more locations and boxes are to be assembled. Funding from the Festival also makes possible our Audubon Wildlife Screen Tours. There were four lecturers presenting afternoon school programs and the evening films for the general public. Average attendance was 121 and the subjects of the films were: "A Naturalist Afield," by Karl Maslowski; "Bird of Freedom", by Herman Kitchen; "African Adventures and Adventures in the American West", by Tom Diez; and "Ranch Life and Wildlife", by Albert Wool.

Our Field trips saw new places and new faces. They continue to find "good birding" for those who attend. Bombay Hook, Chincoteague, Blackwater, Hawk Mountain, Carey Run are the favorites. This year a new location was the Bay Bridge Tunnel, near Cape Charles, Va., where the group enjoyed birding on Fisherman's Island



National Wildlife Refuge. The Sunday Morning bird walks are very popular and we usually have 25 participants both in spring and fall. We have 7 bird walks in both seasons, followed by a breakfast served by members. Those attending give a contribution toward the cost of the food.

Our regular monthly meetings are held September through April at 7:30 P.M. in the Maryland Room of the Loyola Federal Savings & Loan Building in Easton. Elections were held this year and Mr. Donald Terry Allen was elected our new president. I intend to remain as active as my health problem will permit.

REV. IVAN MORRIN, President

### Washington County Chapter

This was an active and productive year. Our membership is at an all time high of 116. Inquiries arrive at our house weekly on various aspects of birding. The bluebird still is No. 1 in this area.

In 1982 we implemented our new by-laws. It was the first time ever to have a program and field list published and delivered before the fall season started. We manned a booth at Boonsboro Days and find that an excellent way to promote what MOS is about. We hope to expand our interest there this year. This is the third year for sponsoring the Outdoor School Weekend. If this project is to survive we must interest others than our own membership.

The fall hawk watch started in mid-August and continued until mid-December. We spent 73 days, 334 hours with a total of 4,761 raptors. There were several days of symphonies of snow geese and loons also. The Christmas Bird Count took place on December 18, 1982. There were 38 observers in 17 parties, making this a successful count day.

The City of Hagerstown asked us to assist the management of the City Park in developing a wildlife preserve there. An able committee was appointed and has met with the city. A bird checklist is being prepared and we supplied Fort Frederick with a checklist for there also.

The largest undertaking of the whole year was laying the groundwork for the start of the MD-DC Breeding Bird Atlas. We now have an excellent chairman, Ted Banvard. Our first training session had 25 people in attendance and all blocks have been assigned. Both of these were first in the state.

This spring we started our first spring hawk watch and find many birds using the ridges. We also had our first Christmas tree trim for the children at Hagerstown Junior College. We adopted a swan. The society pledged \$100 to the World Wildlife Fund for the support of efforts to preserve the habitat in South America for our migratory birds. A recycling project has been started, hopefully, to raise funds for the Sanctuary Fund and several landfills. Our chapter was asked to do the mailing of the Yellowthroat. We are successfully doing this new project at this time.

MARY CORDERMAN, President

### Wicomico County Chapter

This was a good year for the Wicomico Chapter. Monthly meeting attendance was up 35%, and there was more member participation in club programs and activities. The "bird profile" presented at the monthly meetings has been well received. Each month a member will present a talk on a bird; its habitat, feeding habits, distinguishing characteristics, breeding, migration and various facts.

Attendance at field trips averages about 14 persons per trip, the same as last year. The best attended trip was led by Jim Stasz, with 27 persons. This trip specialized in the observation of various species of gulls and markings. Our group is going to miss Jim, for while he lived at Irish Grove he attended our meetings and field trips and we all enjoyed his knowledge of birds and plants and nature in general.

Another highlight was the fix-up day at Irish Grove when various members of our club prepared a turkey and other foods for the workers who came from other parts of the state as well as the Eastern Shore. Our Mrs. Lee Meinersmann was chairman of the Committee that rewrote the by-laws, that were recently adopted. An unusual sighting for our area was made by Mary Humphreys who sighted an Anhinga in a clump of bushes near Ocean City during the May Count.

We are hoping that this coming year we will see an increase in member participation in field trips. We have one of the greatest birding areas in the state on the Eastern Shore as can be verified by those clubs from other parts of the state who plan weekend visits here.

CHESTER J. ROSS, President

## CONTENTS, JUNE 1983

State-wide Bird Count, May 7, 1983.....James Stasz .....	31
The Season — Dec. 1, 1982-Feb. 28, 1983.....Robert F. Ringler .....	42
Annual Report of the Treasurer.....Roger Herriott.....	46
Auditor's Report.....Rodney Jones .....	47
Annual Reports of Local Chapters.....Chapter Presidents.....	49

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Editor:	Chandler S. Robbins, 7900 Brooklyn Bridge Road, Laurel, Md. 20707 (725-1176)
Assoc. Editor:	Jon E. Boone, 9505 Good Lion Rd., Columbia 21045
Asst. Editor:	Robert F. Ringler, 3501 Melody L., Baltimore 21207
Production:	Lettie Cullom
Mailing:	Barbara Larrabee and committee
Headings:	Schneider Design Associates, Baltimore